

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 00220 140818Z

ACTION EB-08

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SUBJ: CIVIL AVIATION: GOY EXPRESSES UNHAPPINESS WITH BILATERAL
AIR RELATIONS

1. DURING VISIT OF CODEL SMITH TO BELGRADE (JAN 10-12)
REP. GEORGE M. O'BRIEN REQUESTED APPOINTMENT WITH BOZIDAR
DIMITRIJEVIC, SECRETARY OF FEDERAL COMMITTEE FOR TRANS-
PORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS. DURING MEETING (MEMCON
POUCHED), DIMITRIJEVIC DESCRIBED US/YUGOSLAV RELATIONS IN
OCEAN SHIPPING AND COMMUNICATIONS AS VERY GOOD BUT TOLD
REP. O'BRIEN OUR CIVIL AIR COOPERATION IS "NOT COMPLETELY
RECIPROCAL". HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT IN OUR RECENT
BILATERAL TALKS YUGOSLAVIA HAD WANTED CHICAGO AND LOS
ANGELES VERY BADLY, BUT US NEGOTIATORS HAD NOT BEEN
SYMPATHETIC. REP. O'BRIEN REPLIED THAT CONTINUING
DIALOGUE BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS ON THIS ISSUE WOULD BE
USEFUL TO ENSURE THAT BOTH SIDES' POSITIONS WOULD BE
CLEAR WHEN DISCUSSIONS RESUME IN 1981. DIMITRIJEVIC
SAID HE WOULD RAISE THIS ISSUE WITH SECTRANS ADAMS
WHEN THE ORGANIZATION OF TRANSPORT MINISTERS
NEXT MEETS IN BRUSSELS IN MAY 1978.

2. WITH THE INK HARDLY DRY ON THE BILATERAL, WE WOULD
FIND THESE CABINET-LEVEL INITIATIVES SURPRISING -
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PAGE 02 BELGRA 00220 140818Z

EXCEPT FOR THE RECENT DECISION BY AUSTRALIA TO
RESTRICT JAT FREQUENCIES TO SYDNEY. JAT BASED ITS
RECENT DECISION TO BUY DC-10'S ON EXPANDING MARKETS
ON HER ONLY TWO LONG INTERNATIONAL ROUTES (NEW YORK
AND SYDNEY). ALTHOUGH SYDNEY IS NOW CLOSED TO FURTHER
EXPANSION, JAT IS STILL COMMITTED TO THE PURCHASE OF
2 DC-10'S, A GREAT DEAL OF NEW CAPACITY WHOSE ONLY

REMAINING OUTLET IS THE US MARKET. THEREFORE, WE
SHOULD EXPECT SHARPER COMPETITION FROM JAT IN THE
FUTURE, COUPLED WITH EFFORTS TO REVISE THE NEW BILATERAL
BEFORE 1981.
EAGLEBURGER

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